MINUTES

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH

ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

1945

HELD WITH

WATSON CHURCH

UNION COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 14, 15, 16, 1945

OFFICERS

ELDER C. M. MILLS, Moderator

PRESTON HELMS, Clerk

ELDER V. V. WILLARD, Reading Clerk

BROTHER ROBERT HORNE, Reading Clerk

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PROCEEDINGS

The one hundred and thirteenth session of The Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association convened with Watson Church on Friday, September 14th, 1945, and continued through Saturday and Sunday.

After the congregation assembled and engaged in songs of praise, services continued with prayer by Elder J. B. Lord, of Dudley, Georgia, followed with introductory sermon by Elder C. M. Mills, Pastor of Watson Church.

After one hour for serving refreshments, the Association met in the house, sang songs of praise, then continued with prayer by Elder W. H. Oaks, of Dryfork, Va.

Messengers and Brethren proceeded to business in the following order:

Elder C. M. Mills, Moderator of Watson Church, served as Moderator, and Preston Helms, Clerk of Watson Church, served as Clerk, and called Elder V. V. Willard and Brother Robert Horne to assist as Reading Clerks.

1. Invited all orderly Baptists who are in good standing in their home churches to seats with us.

2. Called for letters from Sister Churches, which was handed in, read and their status noted.

Watson represented by entire membership.

High Hill: Brethren N. W. Williams, A. Z. Mills, H. F. Austin, and M. C. Mills.

Pleasant Grove: Brethren C. W. Griffin, J. M. Williams, G. W. Griffin and J. M. Taylor.

Union Grove: Brethren Oscar Wooten, Cebron Thomas, Brice Baucom and Loyd Outen.

Liberty Hill: Brethren C. C. Furr, John Harwood, E. F. Lambert and G. P. Burris.

Mountain Creek: Brethren Willie Soloman, Cicero Taylor, Clyde Medlin and Virgil Soloman.

Union: Brethren Brady Polk and W. R. Coley.

Bethel: Brethen R. O. Lewis and W. J. McLamb and others.

Pleasant Hill: Brethren Rankin Richardson, L. S. Arrington, Jim Scott, J. B. Slack and W. E. Lucas.

Lawyers Springs: Brethren Grant Sikes, James Horne, Cletus Marsh and Robert Horne.

High Point: Brethren Jimmie Morefield, Fred Hedgecock, Clay Willard and Brooklyn Willard.

Mills Chapel: Brethren Clyde Caudle, Leonard Baucom, C. J. Mullis and Lee Nance.

Meadow Creek: Brethren R. M. Hatley, N. D. Hathcock, Charlie Furr and D. M. Hathcock.

3. Called for petitionary letters. None presented.

4. The Moderator, Elder C. M. Mills, was authorized to appoint Committees on Preaching and Finance.

Committee on Preaching: Elder V. V. Willard, Brethren J. T. Simpson, F. O. Helms, R. M. Hatley and Cletus Marsh.

Committee on Finance: Brethren Fred Lee Honeycutt, S. H. Edwards, A. E. Broom, L. E. Moorefield and Robert Horne.

5. Called on Presbyteries to report. None reported.

6. Invited Messengers and Visitors from corresponding Sister Associations to seats with us.

Silver Creek: Brother D. A. Land and wife, Sister W. E. Carlton and Sister C. L. McGee.

Dan River: Elders W. H. Oaks, T. L. Wilson, J. D. Hopkins, L. J. Corns and F. F. Eggleston. Brethren W. H. Winn, J. S. Minter and J. J. Minter and others.

Little River of North Carolina: Elders J. T. Lewis and J. S. Stephenson. Brethren R. F. Smith, J. L. Johnson, Frank Matthews.

Little River of Georgia: Elder T. V. Mann and wife.

South Arkansas: No intelligence.

Mt. Zion: Minutes.

Tennessee-Nolachucky: Minutes.

Sequachie Valley and Collins River: Elder G. M. Birdwell and Brother D. M. Roulston.

7. Invited Brethren and Sisters from Sister Associations who do not carry formal correspondence with this Association to seats with us.

Echeconee of Georgia: Brother L. C. Nowell and wife.

Merietta of Georgia: Elder R. N. Mitchel and wife.

Original Upper Canoochie: Elder V. H. Hooks.

Original Towaliga: Elders E. D. Spiers and J. P. S. Stevens.

Ebanezer: Elder J. B. Lord.

8. Appointed Messengers to visit Sister Associations:

Silver Creek: Elders O. C. Mullis, V. V. Willard and Brother Hoyle Simpson.

Dan River: Elders V. V. Willard, O. C. Mullis. Brethren S. H. Edwards and Robert Horne.

Little River of North Carolina: Elders O. C. Mullis, V. V. Willard, C. M. Mills and Brother J. T. Simpson.

Little River of Georgia: Elders C. M. Mills and V. V. Willard.

South Arkansas: Minutes.

Mt. Zion: Elder C. M. Mills.

Tennessee-Noleachucky: Elders C. M. Mills and V. V. Willard.

Sequachie Valley and Collins River: Elders V. V. Willard and C. M. Mills.

9. Agreed to continue correspondence with all Churches and Associations with whom we now correspond.

10. On motion Elder C. M. Mills was appointed to write corresponding letter to be printed in the Minutes of this Association.

11. Unanimously agreed to adjourn until Saturday, September 15th, at 9:45 o'clock, E. W. T.

Benediction by Elder G. M. Birdwell, of East Chattanooga, Tenn.

SATURDAY A. M.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Association met in the house at 9:45 o'clock, E. W. T. After songs of praise and prayer by Elder R. N. Mitchell, 680 Erin Avenue, S. W., Atlanta, Ga., proceeded

to business as follows:

12. Called on Finance Committee to report. Reported sent in by churches and friends: $410.50.

13. Unanimously agreed to distribute Corresponding Minutes as usual.

14. Corresponding Letter called for, read and adopted.

15. On motion it was unanimously agreed that we hold the next Session of the Association with Pleasant Hill Church, Randolph County, North Carolina. Beginning on Friday before the third Sunday in September and continue through Saturday and Sunday following and that the pastor of Pleasant Hill Church preach the introductory sermon.

16. On motion agreed that we have 1000 copies of this Minute printed and distributed as usual, and that Brother Preston Helms superintend the printing and distributing same and that we allow him $45.00 for his services and printing.

17. By motion we agree all funds above $45.00 allowed for printing and distributing minutes be distributed to ministers present.

18. By unanimous consent, the Association returns thanks to God for his Mercy and the Brethren, Sisters and friends of this Church and vicinity for their hospitality and entertainment during this Association.

19. On motion agreed to adjourn the Association to time and place above mentioned.

Benediction by Elder J. S. Stephenson, Benson, N. C.

ELDER C. M. MILLS, Moderator
PRESTON HELMS, Clerk.
ELDER V. V. WILLARD, Reading Clerk.
BROTHER ROBERT HORNE, Reading Clerk

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY A. M.

Elder C. M. Mills, Ephesians 1:22-23.

FRIDAY P. M.

Elder T. L. Wilson, Hebrews 10:6-10.
Elder J. P. S. Stevens, "Ascribe Ye Greatness To God."

SATURDAY A. M.

Elder T. V. Mann, 2 Timothy 1:6-9.
Elder G. M. Birdwell, Matthew 9:12.
Elder J. S. Stephenson, Matthew 7:7.

SATURDAY P. M.

Elder R. N. Mitchell, Ephesians 4:1.
Elder J. B. Lord, 1st Cor. 1:30.
Elder V. H. Hooks, Ephesians 5:1-5.

SUNDAY A. M.

Elder W. H. Oaks, John 17:1.
Elder J. T. Lewis, Hebrews 2:2-3.
Elder E. D. Spier, Isaiah 33:21.

SUNDAY P. M.

Elder L. J. Corns, Romans 1:11.
Elder J. D. Hopkins: "Jesus Wept."
Elder V. V. Willard: "Timely Comments."

NOTE

This was a meeting to be long remembered. Every minister came in his own manner, preaching Christ and Him crucified for the purpose of redeeming His poor lost children to God, that some sweet day all of them would sing praise to His glorious name throughout eternity in a peaceful mansion where congregations never break up, and all shall see Him as He is and be like Him and be satisfied throughout the countless ages of eternity.

May God grant us many more such sweet meetings while we travel through this unfriendly world of sorrow and disappointments is our humble prayer.—CLERK.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder W. H. Oaks, Dryfork, Va.

Elder T. L. Wilson, Route 1, Ridgeway, Va.

Elder L. J. Corns, Route 1, Martinsville, Va.

Elders J. D. Hopkins, Box 292, Schoolfield, Va.

Elder F. F. Eggleston, Box 186, Martinsville, Va.

Elder J. T. Lewis, Route 2, Angier, N. C.

Elder J. S. Stephenson, Route 2, Benson, N. C.

Elder T. V. Mann, 1460 Athens Ave., S. W., Atlanta, Go.

Elder G. M. Birdwell, East Chattanooga, Tenn.

Elder R. N. Mitchell, 680 Erin Ave., S. W., Atlanta, Ga.

Elder V. H. Hooks, Lexsy, Ga.

Elder E. D. Spier, Couley, Ga.

Elder J. P. S. Stevens, 2006 Brownmill Road, Route 9, Box 299, Atlanta, Ga.

Elder J. B. Lord, Dudley, Ga.

Elder A. N. Green, Kings Mountain, N. C.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder C. M. Mills, Route 1, Box 124, Charlotte, N. C.

Elder V. V. Willard, High Point, N. C.

Elder O. C. Mullis, Route 3, Monroe, N. C.

Elder C. H. White, Wadesboro, N. C.

Elder S. F. Heath, Mt. Holly, N. C.

LICENTIATES

Brother Hoyle Simpson, Route 4, Concord, N. C.

Brother Paul Jones, Route 1, Charlotte, N. C.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Handed in by churches and friends	$410.50
Allowed for printing and clerk's fee	$ 45.00
Distributed to ministers	$365.50

CORRESPONDING LETTER

To the Churches and Messengers composing the Original Bear Creek Association, and all of our Corresponding and Visiting Brethren, Greetings.

By the mercy and kindness of God we meet again in love and sweet fellowship for which we thank God. We pray God that peace and unity may continue. We welcome you brethren and desire to continue to correspond with you. Visit us as often as you can and will.

We are endeavoring to live in such a way as to reverence our Lord and keep His Word and His Commandments. We are not trying to get to heaven by works. We are trusting, depending, relying on the Lord Jesus Christ to carry us through to our final rest in glory.

We are endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the Bonds of Peace. The salvation of sinners is by the sovereign grace of God in Glory. We believe in saving ourselves from strife, confusion, and things here in this life by doing what the Master said: "Watch and pray lest ye enter into temptation."

In love and hope in Christ until we meet again here on earth. If not we hope to meet in Glory.

ELDER C. M. MILLS

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one living and true God; the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Article 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, providence, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Article 3. We believe that the scripture of the Old and New Testament contain the only written revealed word of God and the perfect rule of faith and practice for God's Church in her militant state while here on earth.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of election: that God chose His Church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Article 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, the federal head.

Article 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Article 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and His righteousness only.

Article 9. We believe that God's elect or Church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Article 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never really fall away.

Article 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the sup-

per; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men. We believe in feet washing, as taught by our Saviour in St. John 13:4-17.

Article 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Article 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and unjust, and a general judgment.

Article 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES GOVERNING THE ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1st. We understand that at whatever church this Association is being held, that it is being held solely under the authority of that church, just as any other regular or monthly conference.

2nd. That the officers and suffrages of that church shall be the officers and voice of the Association, except as that church may deem prudent to request any member of another church to assist in the business transactions of the Association.

3rd. This Association shall have no authority to pass upon any question of a disciplinary nature except it has first been passed upon by the local churches composing this Association, then the work of the churches shall be recognized by the Association.

4. Any member who endeavors to bring in or inject a disciplinary question that involves fellowship, before it has been passed upon by the local churches, shall be considered out of order by the church with whom the Association is being held, and by the messengers present from the sister churches.

5. The Association shall be conducted for no purpose other than song, prayer, and preaching services, and no business shall be transacted by the Association except that which is necessary or sets forth the status of each church composing this body in the form of a minute.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESS	CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESS	Rec. by Exp. and Baptism	Received By Letter	Received By Relation	Restored	Dismissed By Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Sunday of Meeting	Contribution
Pleasant Hill.....	Elder V. V. Willard, High Point, N. C.	W. E. Lucas, 1221 Northwood St.,..... Greensboro, N. C	11		1					29	3	$ 16.00
Pleasant Grove...	Elder C. M. Mills, R-1, Box 124..... Charlotte, N. C.	A. E. Broom, R-2, Marshville, N. C....						1		54	2	$ 44.00
High Hill.....	Elder J. R. Wilson, Martinsville, Va.... Elder V. V. Willard, High Point, N. C.	M. C. Mills, R-3, Monroe, N. C.....	4						2	53	1	$ 44.00
Union Grove....	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.....	F. L. Baucom, R-3, Monroe, N. C.....	2					1		95	2	$ 50.00
Mountain Creek..	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.....	Isabel Hathcock, Stanfield, N. C.....	1			2				25	3	$ 27.00
Liberty Hill.....	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.....	Ellis Honeycutt, Oakboro, N. C.....				1		1	1	68	1	$ 36.00
Lawyer Springs..	Elders J. R. Wilson and V. V. Willard.	Robert Horne, Peachland, N. C.....	1							76	1	$ 50.00
Union.....	Elder P. J. Washburn, Martinsville, Va	W. R. Coley, R-1, Belmont, N. C.....		1		1				28	3	$ 11.00
Bethel.....	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.....	O. J. Bell, Wampee, S. C.....	3							49	4	$ 23.00
High Point.....	Elder V. V. Willard, High Point, N. C..	H. M. Willard, Marble Street,..... Winston-Salem, N. C.	7				2		2	102	4	$ 40.00
Mills Chapel.....	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.....	C. J. Mullis, Kannapolis, N. C.....	3	7			1			23	3	$ 10.00
Meadow Creek...	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.....	R. M. Hatley, Oakboro, N. C.....					1	2	2	32	1	$ 28.00
Watson.....	Elder C. M. Mills, Charlotte, N. C.....	Preston Helms, R-3, Marshville, N. C..	4							34	4	$ 31.50
		Total Members.....	36	8	1	4	4	5	7	668		

Total Contributions by Churches and Friends $410.50

The one hundred and fourteenth session will convene with Pleasant Hill Church, Randolph County, N. C., beginning Friday before the third Sunday in September 1946 and continue through Saturday and Sunday.